

Subject: RE: Reference request for Ashley Thomas
From: Kim Marie Tabari <tabari@usc.edu>
Date: 6/11/19, 2:13 PM
To: Solomon Rivera <solomon.rivera@lacity.org>

Thank you so very much Solomon.
Have a fantastic week,

Kim

From: Solomon Rivera <solomon.rivera@lacity.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 11, 2019 2:09 PM
To: Kim Marie Tabari <tabari@usc.edu>
Subject: Re: Reference request for Ashley Thomas

Hi Kim,

Here's my responses re Ashley Thomas. . .

1. In what capacity did you work with her?

I was Ashley's supervisor for 4 years. She worked on our legislative and capital projects teams initially, and then was promoted in her first year to Communications Dir. I'd also known Ashley before we worked together, from her work on progressive campaigns.

2. How was she to work with?

Great. . . She organized weekly meetings with me and the Councilmember, with goals for the week, messaging calendar, etc. Very focused and organized, which is necessary in our environment. Great energy, always willing to do whatever is needed for the team.

3. What are her greatest strengths?

Very smart, thoughtful. She can focus on long-term goals, as well as react to daily needs and firefighting (essential with comms!). Strong writing, and knowledge of various communications platforms. Able to work with various teams, and juggle their competing priorities. She has a strong grasp of policy issues relevant to working families, women, people of color, and is a quick study on new and emerging issues.

4. In what areas do you think she could improve?

There were a couple of times when she got feedback, and took it pretty hard. The issues weren't that important, but I felt she needed to handle feedback better. She's a great writer, but she could improve on long form projects. She did a great job on a white paper on homelessness, however she was challenged on capturing the complexity of the issue, and writing in a way that captured the Councilmember's voice in the project. The final paper was good, it just took a lot of work.

5. Would you hire her again? OR If given the chance, would you hire her?

I would, and I look forward to working with her in the future!

On Tue, Jun 4, 2019 at 11:38 AM Kim Marie Tabari <tabari@usc.edu> wrote:

Hello Solomon,

I would like to request a reference on behalf of Ms. Ashley Thomas.

If you would be so kind as to answer the questions listed below, and return them to me via email by **Wed, June 5th**.

Thank you in advance.

Reference Questions:

1. In what capacity did you work with her?
2. How was she to work with?
3. What are her greatest strengths?
4. In what areas do you think she could improve?
5. Would you hire her again? OR If given the chance, would you hire her?

**In Community,
Kim**

Dr. Kim Tabari
Organizational Development Director
USC Program for Environmental & Regional Equity (PERE)
USC Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration (CSII)
Address: 1149 South Hill St, Suite H340, Los Angeles CA 90015
Office #: (213) 740-5860

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RE: Reference request for Ashley Thomas

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Solomon Rivera
Chief of Staff
(213) 473-7008